

CITY OF  
**EUREKA**  
CALIFORNIA

Monthly eNewsletter  
December 2020



**IN THIS ISSUE**

CITY ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY SERVICES

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDDY ALEXANDER

FINANCE

HUMBOLDT BAY FIRE

POLICE

PUBLIC WORKS

HUMAN RESOURCES

# City Manager's Column

Happy December Everyone!

The municipal election is over, although as of this writing we are still waiting for the final tally from Humboldt County. It does look like Eureka voters adopted Measure H, extending voter-approved, locally-controlled funding to maintain vital services identified by the community as priorities including emergency response, youth and senior services, local business and jobs support, street repair and road safety, community health services and homeless prevention programs. It was an important decision for the community to make in a unique election year. We look forward to continuing to work with the community to maintain vital services and fiscal stability as we continue to address our local recovery efforts. It also appears that Scott Bauer and Katie Moulton have been elected to represent Wards 4 and 2, respectively. Myself and the rest of City staff look forward to working with them and the rest of the Council to move their constituents' priorities forward.



Another important issue the City is working on is our Diversity Plan. Diversity is a central component of every organization. From a Human Resources perspective, it gives you access to a greater range of talent and helps to provide insights into every employee's viewpoint. From a community standpoint, it contributes to the overall quality of life for each and every resident, which means a more welcoming and accepting City. We have already gone through some preliminary planning and are starting to engage a larger representation of City staff and will be looking for community input sometime at the beginning of 2021. Please be on the lookout for notifications of upcoming community meetings so you can be an active participant in Eureka's future.

And finally, the pandemic has made this past year one of the most unique in our history. It appears we have reached the point where our efforts to flatten the curve are starting to be less effective. Please be patient and understanding that as the curve rises we will need to be more receptive to stringent procedures in order to protect our community. As more cases are detected locally, please continue to be considerate of other people and follow the guidelines of the Public Health Officer so we can get through these trying times more quickly and safely.

Sincerely,

Miles Slattery

# December

## Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 City Council Meeting	2 Home for the Holidays Registration Opens	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Eureka's Trucker's Parade
13 Home for the Holidays Registration Closes	14 Home for the Holidays Voting Opens	15 City Council Meeting	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Home for the Holidays Voting Closes	23 Home for the Holidays Winner Announced	24	25 Christmas Day City Hall Closed	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day City Hall Closed	

Stay updated on the latest information for the City of Eureka's information about COVID-19 by following the link below:

[COVID INFO](#)

City Hall will be closed to the general public until further notice. To make an appointment, please call one of the following numbers:

Building 707-441-4155  
Development Services 707-441-4160  
Public Works 707-441-4203  
Engineering 707-441-4194  
City Administration 707-441-4144



**City Hall is closed.**

**Please call to make an appointment.**

**Public Works:** (707) 441-4203  
**Building:** (707) 441-4155  
**City Administration:** (707) 441-4144  
**Engineering:** (707) 441-4194  
**Development Services:** (707) 441-4160  
**Finance (water/sewer & business licences):** (707) 601-5853

# City of Eureka Champion's for Children

By Susan Seaman

In December 2019, the Eureka City Council adopted the Children and Families Initiative, a plan whose mission is to see the City of Eureka be a champion for children. This year has brought to light many of the challenges our children and families face that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. More than ever we will need to work efficiently and cooperatively to support our families.

The City works consistently to improve recreation areas, like the restoration of the Clara Mayberry Park or programs for children and families through Community Services. The holidays are a time when the City of Eureka staff really shines when it comes to Championing our Children. Humboldt Bay Fire will be continuing their "Share the Magic of Christmas" Toy Drive; the Eureka Police Department will be offering a COVID friendly "Shop with a Cop" program, except this year packages will be purchased by officers and delivered directly to families; and our Community Access Project for Eureka (CAPE) will also be hosting their holiday toy drive for about 40 children at the Eureka Rescue Mission, Betty's House and the Serenity Inn.

The Eureka City Employees Association (ECEA) will also be hosting a drive, adopting all 61 children in the Big Brother/Big Sister program to provide holiday gifts. The ECEA will have a float during this year's Trucker Parade on December 12, featuring the theme "Champions for Children." The float will include lighted holiday artwork designed by children from Little Saplings, the city's preschool. The boards will be created by local artist, Robert Adams. Chris Armstrong, interim president for the ECEA, says his vision is to get more engaged with the community. Their organization is made up of about 100 men and women who want to give back when they can.

Share the Magic  
of Christmas

TOY DRIVE



Please Help Humboldt Bay Firefighters and the Salvation Army Share the Magic of Christmas by donating a new unwrapped toy to any of these locations below

Any Humboldt Bay Fire Station	Old Town Coffee & Chocolates...211 F St
B Styled Studio.....2901 F St	Porter Street BBQ.....605 Broadway
George Peterson Insurance.....416 E St	Spotlight Video.....332 Harris St
Eureka City Hall.....531 K St	Starbucks.....326 9th St
Poletskis Appliances.....2916 Central Ave	State Farm.....All Eureka Locations
Healthsport .....All Eureka Locations	Los Bagel S.....403 2nd St
Hunter,Hunter,& Hunt.....1315 4th Street	The Central Office Copy Center...326 I St

For More Info Call (707) 441-4000



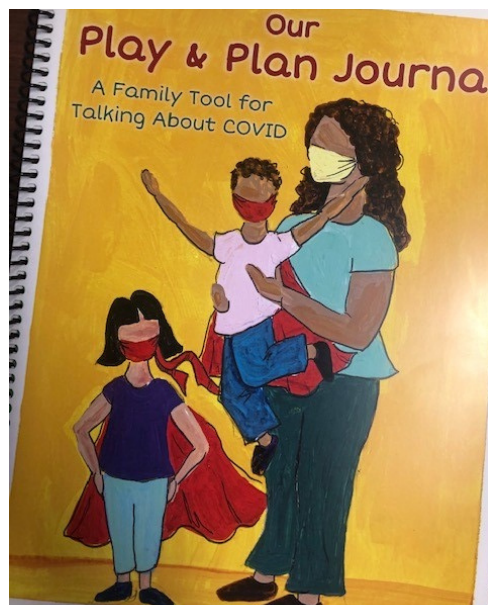
# City of Eureka Champion's for Children

By Susan Seaman

Beyond gift giving, championing for children means advocating for services to support their overall well-being. Access to child care and the economy has remained an ongoing discussion with the Community Economic Resiliency Consortium (CERC). Because of that important tie between access to child care and workforce issues, I worked with First Five and the Humboldt Area Foundation to create an emergency stipend for child care providers who continued to serve families as essential personnel, even as COVID regulations made it more difficult for child care providers to meet their basic costs of doing business. First Five, Supply Bank and Changing Tides also worked together to provide much needed cleaning supplies and PPE to local providers.

Throughout the year, I have met regularly with the Child Care Emergency Task Force. Shannon Fazio, from city's Community Services department, also participates to find ways that the City can support gaps in services as schools are adapting to COVID regulations. This month a COVID journal for families that was inspired by discussions in those meetings will be made available from Humboldt First Five. The City of Eureka will have copies to distribute in English and Spanish.

This year has taught us a lot about how much our whole community and economy relies on our children having safe, quality care and developmental activities with people outside of their families who care for them. We will continue to explore opportunities to address these issues as we enter 2021.



## Community Services Department

The Adorni Center is currently closed due to recent change to the Purple Tier as a result of an increase in COVID-19 cases in Humboldt County. All fitness activities and classes are currently suspended at this time. The Adorni Center will remain closed while in the Purple Tier, with a tentative reopening date of Monday, January 11, 2021.



Community Services offices at the Adorni Center are currently closed to the public. Staff can be reached by email or call and leave a message.

[https://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov/depts/pnr/staff\\_directory.asp](https://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov/depts/pnr/staff_directory.asp)



# Development Services Department

## WHO's NEW?

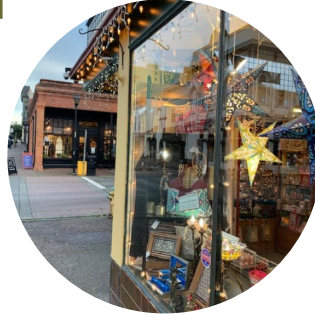
Eureka is dedicated to being a “business-friendly” city. This newsletter column highlights newly established businesses in commercial locations. Between October 1, 2020 and October 31, 2020, the City approved the following business licenses:

Business Name	Type	Address
Top Properties	Art Gallery	234 F St
Redwood Retro	Retail Clothing Store	612 2 <sup>nd</sup> St
Beachside Massage	Massage Therapist	350 E St #300
Bobbie Spurlock LCSW	Counseling Services	930 3 <sup>rd</sup> St #207
The Shadow Gallery	Video Rentals	320 2 <sup>nd</sup> St #1A
From the Ashe's Styling	Hair Stylist	320 2 <sup>nd</sup> St #2E

Join us in congratulating these businesses. Please stop by their new locations and see what they have to offer!



# City of Eureka's Seasonal Campaign



## CHOOSE HUMBOLDT

#shopeureka

We are excited to introduce our collaboration with our surrounding cities, BID's, Chambers of Commerce, Humboldt Made & Main Streets to launch the Choose Humboldt and Shop Local campaign.

November 1st we launched a new marketing campaign to support our local businesses during this holiday season. The campaign's objective is to create a strong, unified voice promoting the importance of shopping locally during the COVID 19 crisis, the 2020 holiday season!

Are you interested in being involved? Are you a local business?

- Be sure to tag #Choosehumboldt #Shopeureka in any of your holiday promotions or posts!
- Record a short 30-60 second video and help spread the shop local love! Why is shopping locally important? Tell us about your favorite Humboldt County holiday tradition? Tell us your founding story? Share something new about your business! Does your business actively give back to the community? Let's hear about it!

Please conclude with: Choose Humboldt. Shop Eureka.

We hope you will join us in the Choose Humboldt campaign! You can either email Christine Tyson at [ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov) Attn: Choose Humboldt Campaign to submit your PSA and video.

We are committed to supporting our local businesses this holiday season and encourage all to stand by and support our community.



# Home for the Holidays



The City of Eureka wants to bring joy and holiday cheer by presenting the Mayor's 1st Annual Home for the Holidays Decorating Contest. Mayor Seaman encourages the community to decorate their homes with holiday décor. With COVID-19 keeping us home for the holidays, grabbing some hot chocolate and driving around the City of Eureka sight-seeing the best of the best holiday décor is the perfect holiday tradition for you and your family.

Individuals who have gone above and beyond in decorating their homes in an exceptional and creative approach are recognized for their hard work. The top vote getter, will receive the Mayor's Holiday Award and be recognized for their contribution to bringing holiday cheer to our community.

## Rules & Regulations

- No cost required to participate
- All Eureka & the greater Eureka area are eligible to participate
- One entry per household
- Addresses of all entered homes will be included on the holiday decorating contest map (Public view)
- Registration starts December 2nd and all entries are due by December 13th at 5PM
- The voting will begin on December 14th and end on December 22nd
- Mayor Seaman will announce the winner on December 23rd
- Decorations must be visible from the street.
- Photos of the homes will be displayed on the City's social media sites

# Home for the Holidays



## Participation:

- Complete the entry form between December 2nd through December 14th
- Your home's photo will be published for the public to vote on your display
- Deadline to enter is December 14th, 2020
- Entry forms available on the City's website
- Any further questions should be directed at ED Coordinator, Christine Tyson at: [ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov)

[Register here](#)

## Voting:

- Public voting will be open from December 14th-December 22nd
- Winner will be announced through social media December 23rd

# Economic Development Department

CITY OF  
**EUREKA**  
CALIFORNIA

EUREKA  
WINDOW  
POETRY  
PROGRAM



The City of Eureka invites property and business owners to sponsor an installation in their window for \$250, which covers the cost of commissioning the artist and poet, and providing the costs of supplies.

Property and business owners who would like to feature local window art poems can sponsor an original piece in their windows by reaching out to:

Christine Tyson  
707-441-4178  
ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov

#RESILIENTEUREKA  
Citizens can support and share this project by following and tagging #ResilientEureka on Instagram and Facebook.

## Eureka Window Poetry Program

In partnership with Eureka Main Street, the Ink People, Eureka Poet Laureate David Holper, Eddy Alexander, and Councilmember Leslie Castellano, the City of Eureka is releasing a new window poem art project in an effort to beautify vacant buildings in Eureka.

To kick off the program, the City is sponsoring eight combination window paintings and poem displays for a total cost of \$800 dollars. Community members and artists are encouraged to get involved by sponsoring additional windows. Property and business owners can participate by sponsoring installations in their windows for \$250, which covers the cost of commissioning both artists (the painter and the poet), and providing the cost of supplies. Owners of commercial buildings who would like to feature local window art poems can sponsor an original piece in their vacant windows by contacting Economic Development staff.

Beyond sponsorships, citizens can support the project by touring the community and checking out these pieces and developing more creative ways to express Eureka's resiliency through window art. Window art is a safe way to express yourself during COVID-19, lifting spirits while doing something the entire neighborhood can enjoy.

## Neighborhood Investment Mini Grant Program

The City of Eureka has developed a Neighborhood Mini Grant Program. The Purpose of the program is to provide small grant for volunteers to complete projects in their neighborhood. The goal of the program is to help create awareness and enthusiasm for residents while they take ownership of their neighborhood, empowering and engaging our community. The Neighborhood Grant Program will create long term economic and social outcomes for city residents.

Click on the link below to apply today:

<http://new.ci.eureka.ca.gov/.../filebank/blobdload.aspx...>





# Eddy Alexander

GROWTH  STRATEGY

Eddy Alexander is continuing to monitor visitation trends both locally and nationally, and sharing information to help visitors follow all local protocols and county ordinances related to COVID-19. While we're currently experiencing additional restrictions, you can continue to support our local restaurants and businesses throughout the holiday season by dining or taking out meals as you're able to, and shopping Eureka for your holiday gifts. When you dine out or get takeout from a Eureka restaurant, make sure to tag the restaurant and @VisitEureka on Instagram and Facebook and use the hashtag #DineOutEureka campaign to share out your support. You'll be entered to win a City of Eureka swag prize (winners selected weekly - learn more [here](#)). By choosing Humboldt and shopping Eureka, you'll help ensure our local businesses are around throughout the holiday season and for many years to come. Make sure to check out the City of Eureka's social media to hear about local Eureka business owners' holiday traditions and memories.



**Indigenous people across the US want their land back -- and the movement is gaining...**

Ultimately, it's about getting Indigenous lands back in Indigenous hands.

Did you see it? The City of Eureka's historic return of Duluwat Island was featured on CNN as a part of a leading thanksgiving story on how Indigenous people are working to reclaiming their land heritage in the United States. You can read and share the story [here](#).



For a fun, holiday-themed distraction, check out a [gingerbread replica](#) of Eureka's Pink Lady Victorian mansion trending on social media website Reddit! Self-described hobby baker Morgan Hamatake undertook her most ambitious gingerbread house ever after a serendipitous intersection with Eureka's Pink Lady while searching for California Victorian houses. Morgan began her Eureka-inspired creation by sketching the Pink Lady exterior on graph poster board. Combining 5-pounds of flour with rich butter, sugar, and molasses, and a mixture of spices, she carefully baked the construction grade gingerbread, based on a recipe from her well-loved 1970s Christmas cookbook. Her post inspired nostalgia in Eureka residents and visitors alike. Fancy trying your hand at a gingerbread masterpiece? Share your art (or flops!) with us Visit Eureka on Facebook or Instagram.

We hope you have a safe, healthy and enjoyable holiday season.



# Eureka Police Department

Well here we are, finally, at the holidays!! Here are a few helpful hints and tips for safe online shopping and purchase deliveries during the 2020 holiday shopping season.

## Safe Online Shopping Tips –

- If the site does not have https at the beginning of the link do not purchase from it.
- Payment options:
  - A third party payment service like Apple Pay, Paypal, or Google Pay interposes a layer between the vendor and your credit card information. These services have the added benefit of not sharing your credit/debit card number with the merchant. Read the details carefully, each has its drawbacks depending on your device type, buying habits, and risk aversity.
  - A credit card provides more protection than a bank card – if you report fraud early you may be limited to \$50 of liability.
- Enable two factor authentication on all of your critical accounts – to access in Amazon, go to your account, login & security and then Two-Step Verification (2SV) Settings.
- Don't forget the low-tech way to monitor for fraud – regularly check credit/debit card transactions.

## Safe Delivery Tips – (Don't forget to verify pickup point hours before sending packages)

- If allowed, ship to your work.
- Have packages delivered to UPS Access points “UPSAPs”.
  - You are required to sign up for a UPS my choice account – it is free with limitations to have your package delivered to a UPS access point.
  - E.g. the store, Michaels, is a UPS Access Point. You can go here to find a list of UPS access points, with hours, near you.
- Use the Fedex Delivery Manager (FDM) you sign up for an account here. FDM allows you to arrange for a changed delivery location up to 1 business day before your package is scheduled to arrive.
  - Both Walgreens locations in Eureka participate in FDM. Find additional participating Fedex delivery points, with hours, near you here.
- Amazon offers the idea of an alternate delivery location from the moment you purchase the item.
  - At Amazon checkout, in Shipping Address segment, you select the hyperlink to the right of Or pick up from an Amazon Locker to select which locker you want your order shipped to (Amazon automatically shows you the lockers nearest to the shipping address).
- Most of these methods require you to provide photo ID upon pickup with the exception of Amazon which will email you a confirmation code to provide at pickup.
- There is no charge for any of these methods, although, Fedex and UPS both require you to sign up for an account.
- All of these methods will ship your package back after a short time period so do not dawdle once you receive confirmation that your package has arrived at the storage point. Amazon promises you will get a full refund if your packages get returned.

Most of all, it is our sincere wish for your holidays that they are filled with the many blessings of our unique north coast home. Stay home, stay safe, save lives.

Q2  
2020CITY OF  
**EUREKA**  
CALIFORNIACity of Eureka  
Sales Tax *Update**Third Quarter Receipts for Second Quarter Sales (April - June 2020)*Eureka  
In Brief

Eureka's receipts from April through June were 4.5% above the second sales period in 2019 inflated by payments deferred from previous quarters. Excluding reporting aberrations, actual sales fell 6.7%.

Second quarter 2020 was the bottoming out from the COVID-19 pandemic. Decreased taxes from specialty, home furnishings and other general retail sectors reflected shops shuttered for multiple weeks. Quick service and casual dining eateries sold far fewer meals.

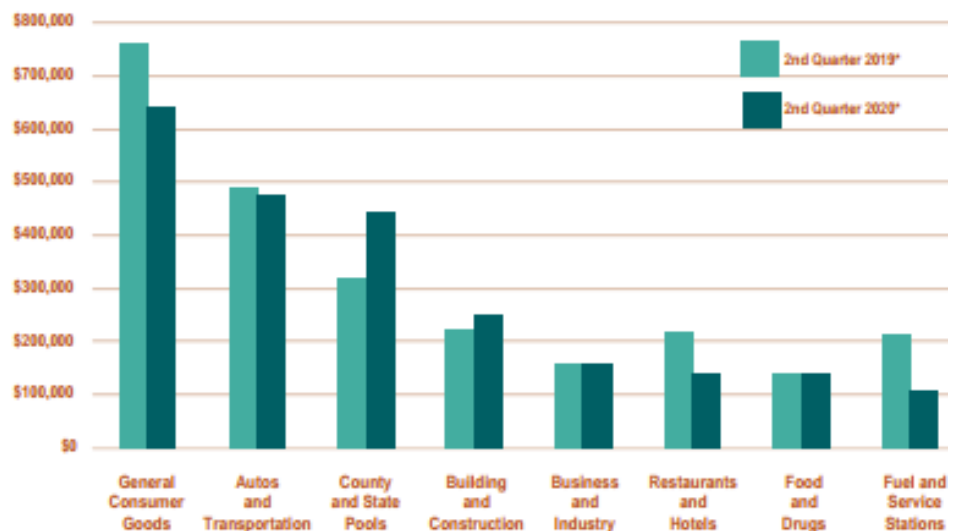
A lesser amount of sales occurred at new motor vehicle dealerships. Stay at home orders dramatically reduced miles traveled; when coupled with fuel price plunges, service stations dropped 29%.

Bright spots included strong gains by sporting goods/bikes, used auto sellers and building materials. New filings by marketplace facilitators combined with a surge from existing online retailers boosted the county-wide use tax pool by 38% which partially made up for overall declines from local merchants.

Measures D and Q dipped 10%; the total of \$1,470,180 revealed less activity from general consumer goods and fuel-service stations.

Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Humboldt County declined 4.2% over the comparable time period; the Far North region was down 4.4%.

## SALES TAX BY MAJOR BUSINESS GROUP



\*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity

## TOP 25 PRODUCERS

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

Chevron Performance Fuels	Pierson Building Supply
Costco	Poletski's Appliance Center
Eureka Chevron	RMI Outdoors
Eureka Home Furnishings	Roys Auto Center
Harper Ford Lincoln Kia	Schmidbauer Building Supply
Keenan Supply	Shafers Ace Hardware
Lithia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat Of Eureka	Sportsman's Warehouse
McCree Nissan/ Subaru	SuddenLink Communications
McDonalds	Target
Mid City Motorworld	Tetrault Tire Pros
Northwood Chevrolet Hyundai Pre Owned	US Cellular
	Verizon Wireless
	Walmart
	Winco

## REVENUE COMPARISON

Four Quarters – Fiscal Year To Date (Q3 to Q2)

	2018-19	2019-20
Point-of-Sale	\$9,496,926	\$8,724,377
County Pool	1,329,958	1,665,248
State Pool	4,719	4,549
Gross Receipts	\$10,831,603	\$10,394,174
Measure D	\$2,290,706	\$2,196,838
Measure Q	\$4,581,388	\$4,393,898

Published by HdL Companies in Fall 2020

www.hdlcompanies.com | 888.861.0220



2Q 2020

## City of Eureka Sales Tax Update

## NOTES

## Statewide Results

Local sales and use tax receipts from April through June sales were 16.3% lower than the same quarter of 2019 after factoring for accounting anomalies and back payments from previous quarters.

This was the largest quarter to quarter decline since 2009. The drops were deepest in the San Francisco Bay Area, Central Coast and Southern California where declines in revenues from fuel, automobiles, general consumer goods and restaurants/hotels were the most severe.

However, despite a 14.9% unemployment rate that eclipsed the previous high of 12.3% during the great recession of 2010 and temporary business closures, the drop in sales was less than previously projected by most analysts including HdL.

The high second quarter unemployment rates primarily affected lower wage service sectors which generate a smaller share of sales tax revenues. Internet connected knowledge workers continued to work but locked at home, found that they had extra cash to spend because of reduced commute and work-related expenses and few entertainment or travel options. Additionally, though much of the quarter's government relief payments were spent largely on rents, utilities and necessities, the money was not distributed proportionally to income losses thereby adding temporary discretionary income gains for some recipients.

Low interest rates and longer term lending practices allowed the extra money to be spent on previously delayed purchases such as autos and home improvements. New car registrations dropped 48.9% in the second quarter, but sales tax receipts dropped only 15.8% as buyers who did purchase, opted for more expensive SUV's, trucks and luxury vehicles. As cabin fever set in, sales of RV's, boats and Motorcycles also began to rise.

With restaurants and many brick and mortar stores closed or restricted to limited occupancy, buyers shifted to online shopping with tax revenues from in-state fulfillment centers rising 142.7% over the

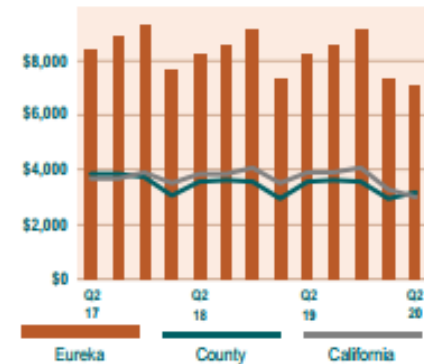
second quarter of 2019 and county pools where tax receipts from out-of-state goods are allocated, rising 28.9%. Online sales accounted for 52.0% of this quarter's tax revenues from the general consumer goods group.

Working at home eventually morphed into working on home thereby boosting related improvement purchases. Grocers, cannabis, liquor and sporting goods further helped offset losses in other segments.

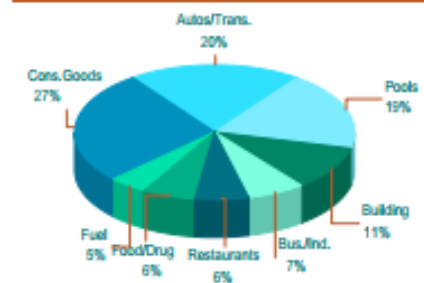
Strong demand for warehouse and shipping technology, equipment and supplies to accommodate the increase in online shopping as well as home offices and virtual classrooms helped offset declines in the business/industrial group. Unanticipated gains in agriculture related purchases and transit spending further added to the offset.

Pandemic uncertainties, fires, childcare issues and bankruptcies are expected to result in uneven gains through 2020-21 with each jurisdiction's experience differing according to the scope and character of their individual tax bases. Overall recovery and improvement in statewide receipts is not expected to begin until 2021-22.

## SALES PER CAPITA\*



\*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity

REVENUE BY BUSINESS GROUP  
Eureka This Quarter\*

\*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity

## EUREKA TOP 15 BUSINESS TYPES\*\*

*In thousands of dollars	Eureka			County	HdL State
Business Type	Q2 '20*	Change	Change	Change	Change
Auto Repair Shops	29.6	-8.5%	-13.7%	-28.2%	-28.2%
Automotive Supply Stores	40.1	-2.6%	0.0%	-4.7%	-4.7%
Building Materials	177.3	19.4%	22.4%	7.0%	7.0%
Casual Dining	54.3	-55.9%	-49.5%	-53.2%	-53.2%
Discount Dept Stores	— CONFIDENTIAL —			-0.5%	-6.3%
Electronics/Appliance Stores	47.5	-9.2%	-2.8%	-50.8%	-50.8%
Grocery Stores	73.1	1.0%	8.4%	7.8%	7.8%
Home Furnishings	40.5	-27.6%	-28.5%	-41.6%	-41.6%
New Motor Vehicle Dealers	299.4	-6.9%	-7.7%	-15.8%	-15.8%
Plumbing/Electrical Supplies	48.4	5.6%	14.0%	-15.8%	-15.8%
Quick-Service Restaurants	70.6	-9.6%	-14.2%	-22.0%	-22.0%
Service Stations	99.5	-29.3%	-29.4%	-45.2%	-45.2%
Specialty Stores	34.9	-32.3%	-24.4%	-36.2%	-36.2%
Sporting Goods/Bike Stores	68.8	30.7%	22.2%	-11.0%	-11.0%
Used Automotive Dealers	57.8	19.2%	15.7%	-20.6%	-20.6%
Total All Accounts	1,911.0	-13.3%	-11.1%	-24.0%	-24.0%
County & State Pool Allocation	444.6	38.5%	43.0%	28.9%	28.9%
Gross Receipts	2,355.6	-6.7%	-4.2%	-16.3%	-16.3%

\*\* Accounting aberrations such as late payments, fund transfers, and audit adjustments have been adjusted to reflect the quarter in which the sales occurred.

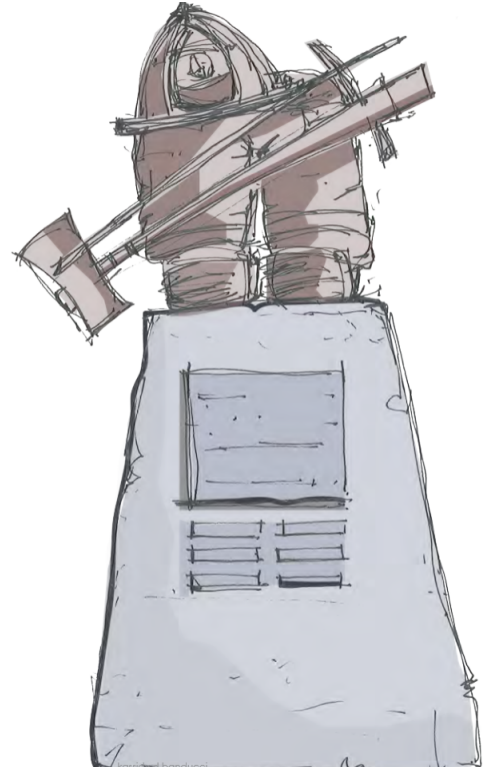
# Humboldt Bay Fire

## *Fallen Firefighter Memorial Fundraisers*

Special thanks to Mod Pizza and Happy Donuts / Express Asian food for hosting fundraisers for the Fallen Firefighter Memorial! We are so close to reaching our goal and we hope to break ground this Spring.

If you'd like to donate, you can drop off cash or checks to Station 1 at 533 C Street in Eureka or through our GoFundMe page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/pmtgx-fallen-firefighters-memorial-eureka-ca>



## *Inclement Weather:*

The rain has arrived, which makes driving even more dangerous. During the late Fall and Winter seasons visibility is low, built-up oils make the roads slick, and excess water and debris on roadways is more prevalent. Keep these safety tips in mind while driving:

- Keep headlights on in wet weather.
- Slow down. Allow additional time to reach your destination.
- Be aware of standing water on roadways which may cause vehicles to hydroplane.
- Keep an eye out for debris such as rocks, trees, and limbs as well as downed power lines which may have fallen during wind storms. Never approach a down power line – call 9-1-1.
- Do not attempt to cross flooded roadways; vehicles can be swept away by strong currents and fast-moving water.



# Humboldt Bay Fire

## “Share the Magic of Christmas” Toy Drive:

The Humboldt Bay Firefighters Union Local 652 “Share the Magic of Christmas” Toy Drive and “Santa for Seniors” donation programs have begun!

Our Toy Drive is the oldest and longest-running toy drive in Humboldt County; not even 2020 can stop us! In the 1920’s, firefighters began collecting and fixing toys for local, underprivileged children. Using their own money and their days off, firefighters would collect broken bicycles, dolls, etc. and refurbish them to look and function like new. This tradition continues to grow, and we now partner with The Salvation Army to distribute new, unwrapped toys to children in our community who may not otherwise receive a gift for the holidays. This event continues to be funded by the generosity of personal firefighters as well as through the support and donations from local area businesses and citizens.

We hope that you will join us in supporting local children this year. All toys collected are distributed to local children ages 0 – 12 in Humboldt County. It is our goal to help over 600 families this year!

Wanting to donate? Look out for the big red barrels at the following locations:

- Any Humboldt Bay Fire Station
- B Styled Studio: 2901 F St.
- George Peterson Insurance: 416 E St.
- Eureka City Hall: 531 K St.
- Poletskis Appliances: 341 W Harris St.
- Hunter, Hunter, & Hunt: 1315 4th St.
- Old Town Coffee & Chocolates: 211 F St.
- Porter Street BBQ: 605 Broadway St.
- Spotlight Video: 322 Harris St.
- Starbucks: 326 5th St.
- State Farm: all Eureka locations
- Los Bagels: 403 2nd St.
- The Central Office Copy Center: 326 I St.



For More Info Call (707) 441-4000

Donate by December 17 as all boxes will be collected December 18, 2020.

In addition to the Toy Drive, we are proud to continue the annual “Santa for Seniors” program. This year we are partnering with the Humboldt Senior Resource Center’s “White Bag Program.” This program provides local senior citizen with a holiday bag that has been decorated by local school children. All bags are filled with food and treats for the holidays as well as a warm, nutritious meal. They hope to assemble, wrap, and deliver over 400 bags this year! By making a toy or monetary donation to one of these programs, you can help share the magic of Christmas with someone less fortunate than yourself and directly benefit the children and elders in your community. Thank you.

# Humboldt Bay Fire

## Christmas Safety Tips

Humboldt Bay Fire does not want to see anyone's holidays ruined by a fire event. The holidays should be a time of family togetherness and joy. Please remember to think of safety in all of your holiday activities.

### Candle Safety:

Statistically, there are twice as many fires caused by candles in December as in any other month of the year.

- Place candles in sturdy, non-combustible containers
- Keep candles well away from decorations and other combustible materials
- Check candles frequently to make sure they have not burned down too far
- Don't leave children unattended in a room with lit candles
- Don't display candles in a window or near exits in case you need to use them to escape
- NEVER use lit candles to decorate Christmas trees

### Exercise good home safety practices:

- Do not overload electrical systems with Christmas lighting
- Do not burn gift wrapping in fireplaces or wood stoves
- When cooking, keep handles of pots and pans turned inward so they will not be pulled or knocked off the stove
- Store combustible materials away from heat sources
- Recycle Christmas trees. Never burn them in fireplaces or wood stoves

### Christmas Tree Tips:

Did you know that Christmas trees fires alone result in 13 million dollars, annually, in property damage? More importantly, these fires present real risk towards family and friends. When showcasing a live tree in your home, the combination of tree dryness, electrical malfunction with lights and poorly located heating sources can make for a deadly combination. However, if your holiday isn't complete without a live tree, follow these safety tips to keep threats at bay:

- Fresh trees are less likely to catch fire, so look for a tree with vibrant green needles that are hard to pluck and don't break easily from its branches. The tree shouldn't be shedding its needles readily.
- Always place your tree away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights, and keep the tree base filled with water to avoid a dry out.
- Make sure all your indoor and outdoor Christmas lights have been tested in a lab by the UL or ETL/ITSNA for safety, and throw out any damaged lights.
- Any lights you use outdoors must be labeled suitable for exterior placement, and be sure to plug them into a ground-fault circuit interrupter protected receptacle.
- Keep all your holiday candles away from your Christmas tree, surrounding furniture and décor.
- Bedtime means lights off! → Don't forget to turn your Christmas tree lights off each night.
- When your tree begins to drop its needles, it's time to say goodbye to your evergreen foliage until next year.

## Public Works Employee Spotlight: Will Matcham

This month Public Works shines the Employee Spotlight on Will Matcham. 2020 marks Will's 18th year working for the City.

**Public Works:** A few years back the Public Works Department promoted you to Utility Maintenance Supervisor. Tell us a bit about your Crew and responsibilities.

**Will:** We are responsible for conveying wastewater from homes and businesses throughout the City of Eureka to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This includes cleaning of sewer mains, cutting tree roots from mains, removing debris such as wipes, sand, rocks, and sometimes things out of the ordinary. We also help with different departments when they need assistance; facilities with their public restrooms when they have issues, the Zoo with cleaning of the Flamingo Pond, brushing easements for access to sewer mains for maintenance, and assisting contractors with City improvement projects pertaining to the sewer infrastructure.

**PW:** Most likely, you have employed some new innovations over the years for wastewater collection activities. What would you say would be the single most amazing tool or mechanism that has been a game changer?

**Will:** The Combination Truck. This piece of equipment is like a giant vacuum, it can hydro clean mains and suck the unwanted material out of the sewer system. It is also excellent for hydro excavation work, we use it to dig down to repair sewer mains and laterals.

**PW:** For our readers, who may not know the intricacies of how sewers work, what would you say is the most egregious thing that citizens should never flush down the toilet?

**Will:** Wipes! Wipes are costly to the City. They create blockages in the sewer mains and laterals, which can lead to flooding homes and businesses. Needless to say, sewage flowing down the street is not good for humans or the environment. We filled two, 55-gallon trash bags full of baby wipes out of a six-inch sewer main from one home. Many crew hours and equipment were used to clear the blockage. They also clog lift station pumps, causing damage and shortening pump life, not to mention that it costs thousands of dollars to replace a single pump.

**PW:** Living in Humboldt County is a fantastic playground for folks who like the great outdoors – are there activities that you and your family have been enjoying out-of-doors during the Pandemic?

**Will:** We spend most of our vacations and weekends on our pontoon boat, fishing and cruising lakes all over Northern California. We usually like to go inland to find the warmer weather. Other than that, we have several home improvement projects that take a lot of time and energy right now.



# Human Resources

Interested parties are encouraged to contact the Personnel Department.

Email: [ekitna@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:ekitna@ci.eureka.ca.gov)

Phone: (707) 441-4117

Website: [www.ci.eureka.ca.gov](http://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov)

## BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

You can participate in City government by serving on one of the more than 13 City boards, commissions and advisory committees. These advisory groups partner with the Eureka City Council and City staff to guide the future of our community. Learn how you can apply to serve on one of these boards on the City's website or by clicking [here](#).

Notice is hereby given that applications will be accepted for appointments to the following city boards and commissions until the vacancies are filled:

### BOARD/ COMMISSION:

- Board of Appeals
- Chief's Advisory Board
- Design Review Committee
- Finance Advisory Committee
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Housing Authority
- Open Space Parks and Rec Comm.
- Planning Commission
- Transportation Safety Commission

Applications may be obtained by phone or in person from the Mayor's Office, City of Eureka, 531 "K" Street, Eureka, CA 95501, (707) 441-4144, or may be downloaded from the City Clerk's website, listed below.

In order to be eligible for appointment to any board or commission, a person must be a qualified registered elector of the City of Eureka, the Humboldt Community Services District or Humboldt County Service Area No. 3, or an owner of a business located within the city limits of the City of Eureka. The mayor shall make the appointments with the approval of a majority of the Council. Appointments of qualified non-city residents will require a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Council for confirmation.

Members on Boards and Commissions shall be willing to serve as a civic responsibility and without compensation. No member of any board or commission shall hold any paid office or employment in the city government.

Applications will be accepted until filled. For more information, call the City Clerk at (707) 441-4175, or go to: [www.ci.eureka.ca.gov](http://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov).

### MAYOR

Susan Seaman

### CITY COUNCIL

Ward 1, Leslie Castellano

Ward 2, Heidi Messner

Ward 3, Natalie Arroyo

Ward 4, Austin Allison

Ward 5, Kim Bergel

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Miles Slattery, City Manager

Pam Powell,

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/ IT

Bob Black, City Attorney

### DEPARTMENTS

Building/Public Works

Engineering/Planning

Brian Gerving

Finance

Lane Millar

Humboldt Bay Fire

Chief, Sean Robertson

Community Services

Donna Wood

Human Resources

Will Folger

Police

Chief, Steve Watson

### About this Newsletter

The City of Eureka eNews is published monthly.

For questions and comments please contact:

Christine Tyson

[ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov)

Follow us on Facebook!  
[Facebook.com/cityofeureka](https://www.facebook.com/cityofeureka)